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Attorney's Docket No. 1003301-000263

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

In re Patent Application of ) **MAIL STOP: PCT**  
Silvano Freti et al. )  
Application No.: Unassigned ) **Attention: DO/EO/US**  
Filed: May 11, 2006 ) Group Art Unit: Unassigned  
For: MATERIALS FOR DEWATERING ) Examiner: Unassigned  
ELEMENTS ) Confirmation No.: Unassigned

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

This is a national phase filing of International Application No.

PCT/EP2004/012999, filed November 17, 2004.

It is contemplated that this Application be prosecuted while using Claims 1 to 9 that were submitted on September 2, 2005 during the international phase of the examination as further amended herein.

Please amend the Application as indicated.